

EDCT 2030: My Lesson Plan

Exploring Setting: Constructing Character, Point of View, Atmosphere & Theme



Instructor Name: Kayla Scott

Lesson duration: 50 minutes (one class period)

Lesson Objectives

Students should be able to find how elements like character, point of view, atmosphere, and theme construct the setting of a story. The setting is not always physically written or obvious for the reader.

Lesson Overview

Students will be exploring setting by comparing and contrasting the elements of character, point of view, atmosphere and theme in stories such as “Blight” by Stuart Dybek, Charles Dickens’ “Great Expectations,” the lyrics from “The Town is Lit” by Toni Morrison, and Edgar Allen Poe’s “The Cask of Amontillado.” Students will then sketch two settings from “The Cask of Amontillado.”

Materials and Resources

We will use a printed copy of all of the above stories and lyrics. An annotated bibliography of these books will also be helpful to exemplify the plot elements, character, setting, and theme. I think it would also b important to incorporate a

short podcast clip of Edgar Allen Poe reading “The Cask of Amontillado,” so the students can get a feel of his voice and the setting of the story.

Instructional Strategies

After reading all of the stories and listening to “The Cask of Amontillado” in a podcast, students will be split into pairs and will be given a compare and contrast sheet to fill out and be collected in the same day. After comparing and contrasting Poe, Dickens, and Morrison, students will be asked to draw out settings for “The Cask of Amontillado,” which they can take home and turn in the next day if they do not finish. The drawings will be done individually without their group members.

Evaluation/~~Assessment~~

Formative assessment will be used throughout the class instead of summative. When they are working on their group work, I will go around and check progress. When they start their setting pictures, I will make sure to check what they have before they leave and let them know how they are doing with it. Later in the week students will have a quiz over the vocabulary terms of character, setting, point of view, atmosphere and theme. They will have to connect these definitions with other short pieces of text.